

REMARKS

This Response is submitted in reply to the Office Action mailed on September 24, 2008. The Office Action is, in part, a restriction requirement. Restriction is required between two alleged groups of invention: Group I (Claims 1-8 and 19-20) and Group II (Claims 9-18 and 21-26). Applicants elect, without traverse, Group II (Claims 9-18 and 21-26).

In addition, the Patent Office is requiring numerous election of species. Applicants respectfully submit that these election of species requirements are not proper. Indeed, it appears the Patent Office has merely utilized the dependent claims as alleged species in an attempt to unduly limit the claimed invention. In fact, one of the elections of species is electing either Claim 19 or 20. As noted by the MPEP, "Claims are definitions or descriptions of inventions. Claims themselves are never species." See MPEP 806.04(e). Applicants believe this, in and of itself, demonstrates the election of species requirement is not proper. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the election of species requirement be withdrawn.

Applicants elect, with traverse, the following species. Hesperidine from Claims 10 and 18. Vitamin C from Claim 21. Human from Claim 9. Ageing as the cause of disorder from Claim 14. Hair gloss from Claim 16. Skin from Claims 17 and 23. With respect to the characteristic of Claim 15, Applicants cannot elect a single species because several are linked. Indeed, it is impossible to elect a single species as they are not exclusive of each other. Regardless, Applicants respectfully request that all of the election of species requirement be withdrawn.

Applicants expressly reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected claims and species.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-1818.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: October 24, 2008